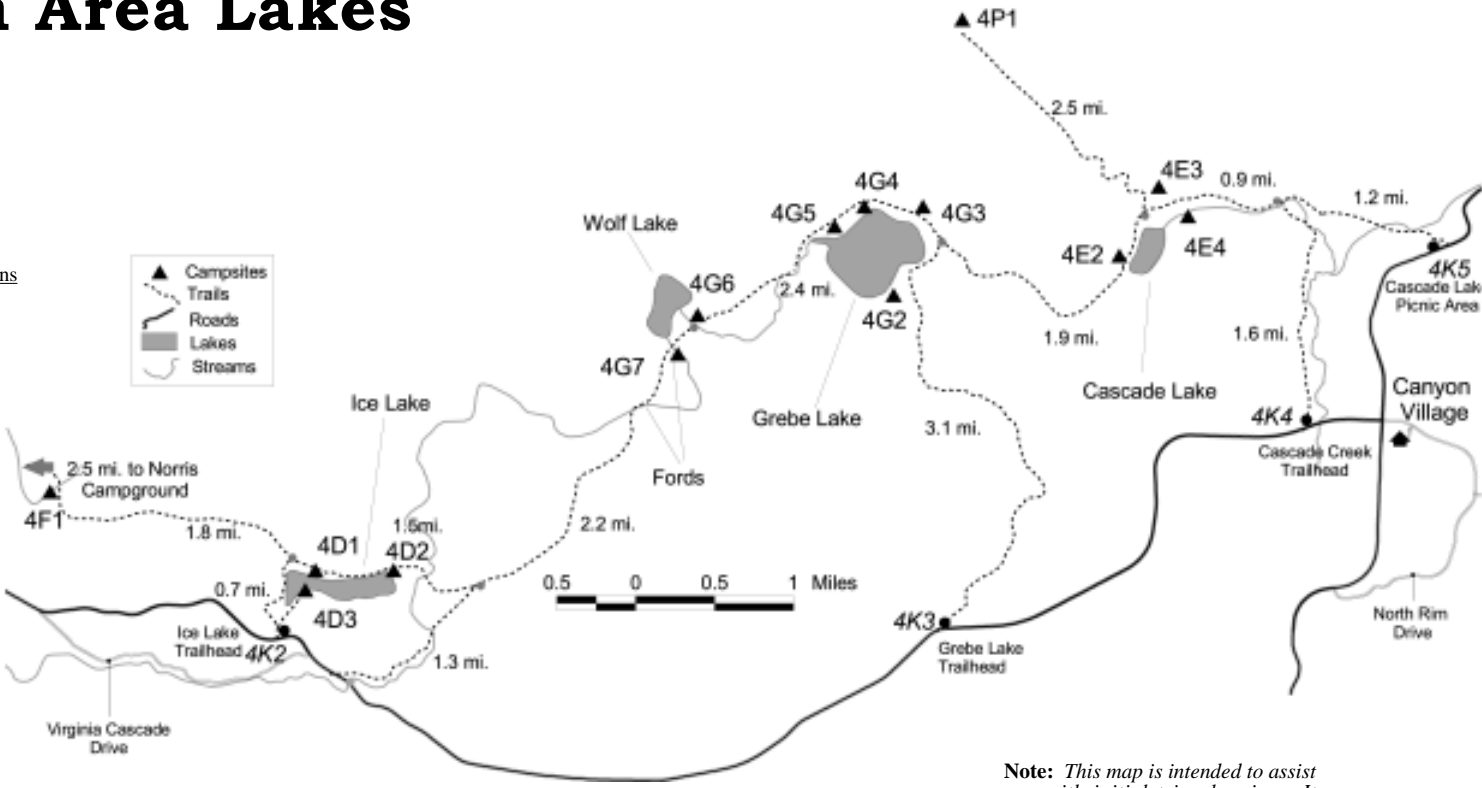


Canyon Area Lakes

Camp-Capacity---

No.	People	Stock	Campsite Name/Restrictions
4D1e	6	0	Ice Lake North
4D2e	8	0	Ice Lake East
4D3e	4	0	Ice Lake South
			Reservable only by parties with special needs. Wheelchair accessible with assistance.
4E2	4	0	Cascade Lake
4E3	8	0	Cascade Lake
4E4e	8	12	Cascade Lake
4F1e	8	0	Norris Meadows
4G2	8	0	Grebe Lake
4G3	8	6	Grebe Lake
4G4	8	6	Grebe Lake
4G5	8	6	Grebe Lake
4G6	8	12	Wolf Lake
4G7	8	0	Wolf Lake
4P1	8	0	Observation Peak • NWF

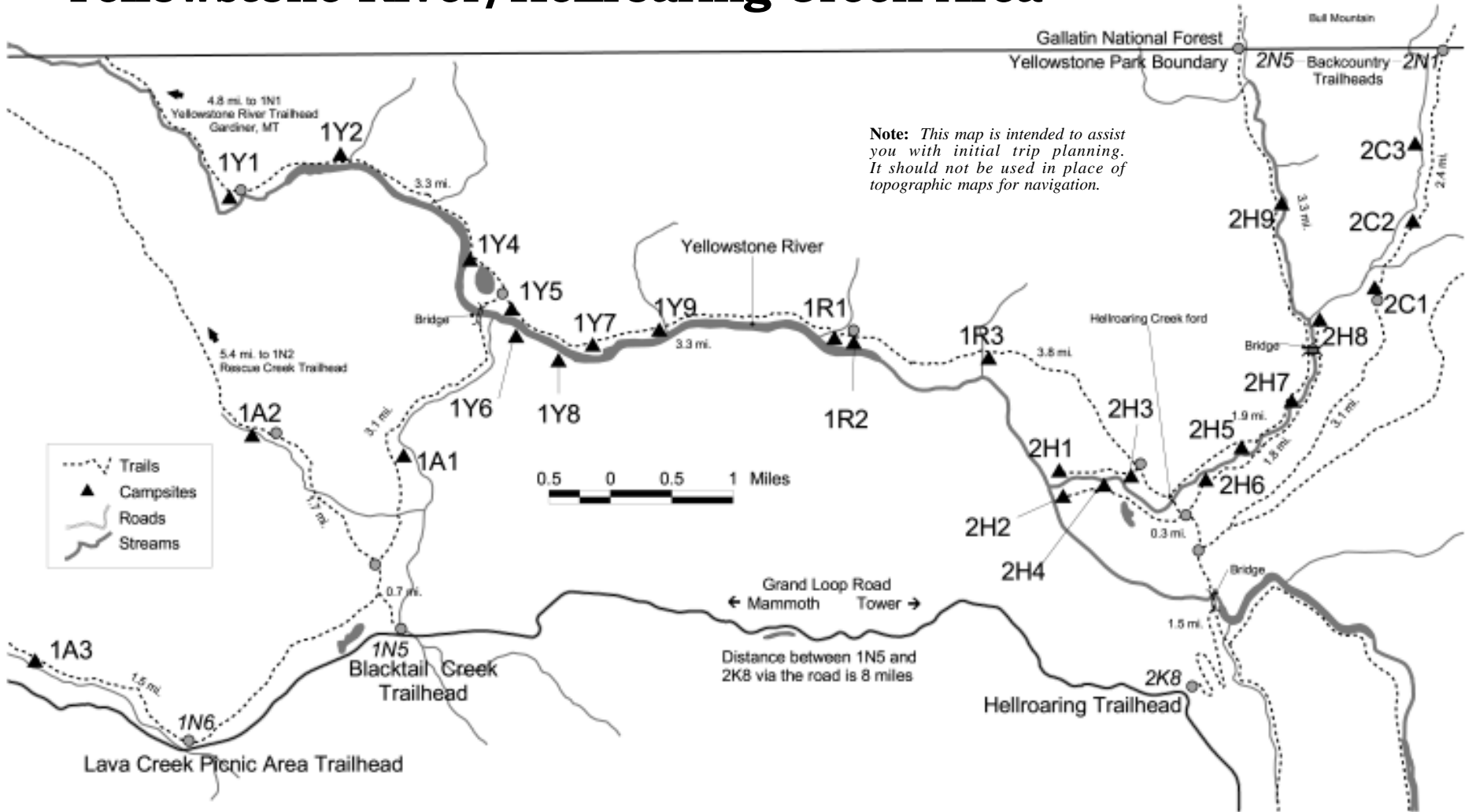
e=Easy access sites within 2 miles of the trailhead.



Note: This map is intended to assist you with initial trip planning. It should not be used in place of topographic maps for navigation.

Cascade, Grebe, Wolf, and Ice Lakes are popular destinations for day-hikers and overnight backpackers. These lakes sit atop the Solfatara Plateau at an average elevation of 8000 feet.. At this elevation, snow often remains in the area through mid-June and wet and muddy conditions with a healthy population of mosquitoes may persist into early July. The ford of the Little Gibbon River (east of site 4G7) is slow-moving, but can be 3-4 feet high throughout June. The trail to Observation Peak is strenuous, climbing 1400 feet in less than 3 miles. Campsite 4P1, atop Observation Peak, has no nearby source of water after the snow drifts disappear in mid-summer. Site 4D3, on the shore of Ice Lake, can be reserved only by campers with special needs. Only one-half mile from the trailhead, site 4D3 can be reached by wheelchair (with assistance) and has an accessible pit toilet.

Yellowstone River/Hellroaring Creek Area



Note: This map is intended to assist you with initial trip planning. It should not be used in place of topographic maps for navigation.

This trail is one of the first trails dry enough for hiking by mid-May. However, Hellroaring Creek remains too swift and deep to ford until August. When traveling to campsites 2H1, 2H3, 2H5 and 2H7 from trailhead 2K8, hikers must use the bridge north of campsite 2H7 to cross the creek . If the creek subsides, usually by mid-August, hikers might be able to ford southeast of campsite 2H3. Fords are dangerous, especially in high water, and not recommended. Also, during the spring and early summer, this area has a healthy population of ticks so hikers should take appropriate precautions. A report of current conditions is available at backcountry offices that issue permits. All the campsites along this trail system prohibit wood fires except 1A1-3, 2C1-3 and 2H9.

- Trailheads:
- IN1-Yellowstone River, Gardiner, MT (not shown)

IN2-Rescue Creek (not shown)

IN3-Lava Creek (not shown)

IN5-Blacktail Creek

IN6-Lava Creek Picnic Area

2K8-Hellroaring
- North boundary trailheads in the national forest with no road access:
- 2N1-Coyote Creek

2N5-Upper Hellroaring

Camp --Capacity---			Campsite Name/Restrictions	
No.	People	Stock		
1A1e	10	6	Lower Blacktail Creek	
1A2e	10	0	Rescue Creek	
1A3e	6	0	Lava Creek	
1R1	12	6	W Cottonwood Creek • NWF • Stock limit 2 nights	
1R2	6	0	E Cottonwood Creek • NWF	
1R3	10	10	Little Cottonwood Creek • NWF • Stock limit 2 nights	
1Y1	10	0	Yellowstone Rv. Trail • NWF	
1Y2	10	0	Yellowstone Rv. Trail • NWF	
1Y4	6	0	Crevice Lake • NWF	
1Y5	6	0	E of Yell Rv. Bridge • NWF	
1Y6	6	0	E of Blacktail Cabin • NWF	
1Y7	10	6	Yellowstone Rv. Trail • NWF • Stock limit 2 nights	
1Y8	6	0	Oxbow Creek • NWF	
1Y9	8	0	Yellowstone Rv. Trail • NWF	
2C1	8	0	Coyote Creek	
2C2	8	0	Coyote Creek	
2C3	10	16	Coyote Creek • Stock Parties Only	
2H1	8	0	Yell/Hell Confluence • NWF	
2H2	6	0	Yell/Hell Confluence • NWF	
2H3	10	0	Hellroaring Creek • NWF	
2H4	6	0	Hellroaring Creek • NWF	
2H5	8	0	Hellroaring Creek • NWF	
2H6	8	0	Hellroaring Creek • NWF	
2H7	10	0	Hellroaring Creek • NWF	
2H8	8	0	Hellroaring Creek • NWF	
2H9	8	0	Hellroaring Creek	

NWF = No Wood Fires
e=Easy access sites within 2 miles of the trailhead.

Heart Lake Area

Closed from 4/1 through 6/30, see below

Camp --Capacity---

No.People Stock Campsite Name/Restrictions

All sites listed below are closed 4/1 - 6/30. (BMA O)

8B1	4	0	Basin Creek
8B2	12	6	Basin Creek Lake
8B3	12	20	Basin Creek • Stock Parties Only • Unavailable if 8B4 occupied
8B4	12	20	Basin Creek • Stock Parties Only • Unavailable if 8B3 occupied
8B5	8	0	Basin Creek
8C5	12	10	Snake River
8H1*	8	0	South Bay • NWF
8H2*	6	0	Sheridan Creek
8H3*	4	0	Hideaway
8H4*	8	0	West Shore • NWF
8H5*	6	0	Sheridan Trail • NWF
8H6*	6	0	Rustic • NWF
8J1*	8	0	Beaver Creek

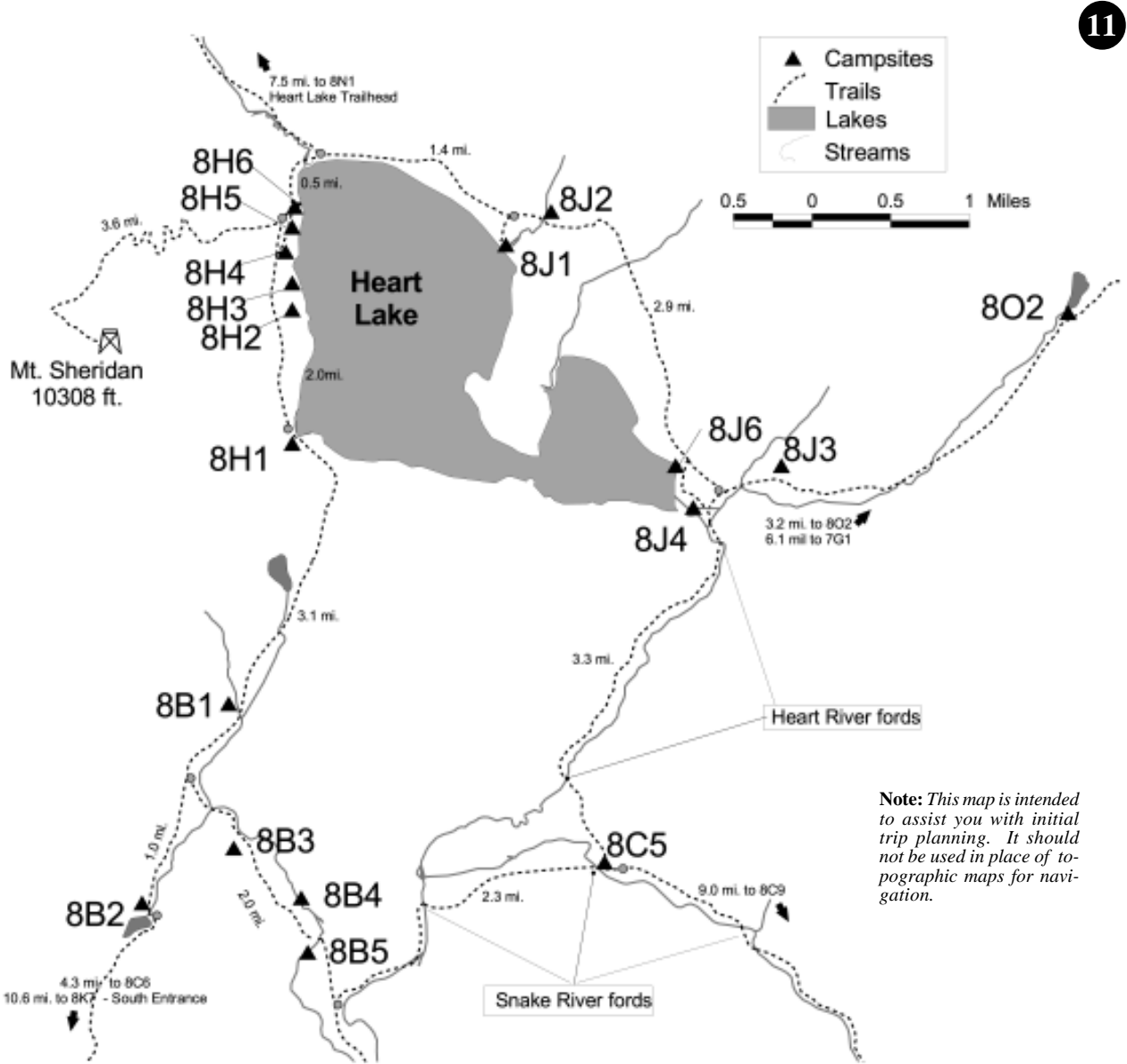
* All 8H sites and 8J1 have a limit of 2 nights per trip from 7/1 to 9/1

8J2	12	25	Beaver Creek Meadow •Stock Parties Only • 2 night limit
8J3	8	0	Surprise Creek
8J4	8	0	Heart River
8J6	4	0	E Shore
8O2	6	6	Outlet Lake • No travel east of campsite before 7/14

Located at the base of Mt. Sheridan, Heart Lake is a popular destination with much competition for the campsites along its shores in July, August, and early September. Campsites on the west shore have a two night per trip limit. A day hike up Mt. Sheridan is an option for hikers who have the time and energy. The hike to the summit is strenuous as the trail climbs over 2700 feet in 3 miles, but the view is worth the climb. Of the five sites at the base of Mt. Sheridan only 8H2 and 8H3 permit fires.

The Heart Lake area is prime bear habitat and part of a Bear Management Area that **does not open before July 1**. Depending on trail and bear management conditions, the opening might be delayed a day or two. The Trail Creek Trail east of campsite 8O2 remains closed until July 15. Assume that bears are in the area even if you don’t see them. Take the necessary precautions to minimize the chance of an encounter. Near the northwest shore of the lake are several thermal areas one of which is home to Rustic Geyser. Use caution around all thermal areas where boiling water and unstable ground can cause serious injury or death. Remember there is no 911 in the backcountry. Soaking in thermal features that are entirely of thermal origin is illegal, dangerous and can cause serious damage to the feature.

To the south and southeast of Heart Lake there are several significant river fords. These fords of the Heart River and Snake River are usually high, swift and sometimes impassable in the early season. In addition, there are two fords of the Snake River between the South Entrance and campsite 8B2. In a typical year, hikers should not plan on being able to cross any of these rivers until mid-July at the earliest. Contact the backcountry office for current conditions.



Horsepacking In Yellowstone

"Packing unavoidably has a great impact on the country simply because horses and mules are big animals and have to eat. Packers have to accept this and make every effort to minimize the effects of their passing." (from *Packing in on Mules and Horses* by Smoke Elser and Bill Brown)

For a list of licensed outfitters who provide guided backcountry trips using horses or llamas, call our backcountry office.

Travelling on horseback is a traditional and exciting way to see Yellowstone's backcountry. In planning for your trip keep these things in mind.

Select only stock that are well trained, compatible with each other, and accustomed to being picketed or hobbled. Poorly managed stock have caused extensive resource damage.

- All equine stock crossing a state line while in the park must show proof a negative Coggins test dated within the last 12 months before entering the park.
- Take only enough stock to accommodate your party and equipment. Fewer animals make for less work, worry and impact.
- To prevent the spread of nonnative weeds and grasses, hay is not permitted in the backcountry or at the trailhead. All feed must be processed, i.e., hay cubes, pellets, rolled oats, etc.
- During mosquito and fly season bring plenty of insect repellent for your animals..
- If you wish to take a daytime ride, please call our backcountry office for current information.
- Carefully consider the equipment you plan to use for retaining your stock with minimal impact. While we do not prohibit the use of highlines, it is almost impossible to use them for long-term retention with causing unacceptable impacts. If you use them, you must move them often enough to prevent vegetation damage.

At the trailhead and on the trail :

Stock may not be kept at trailheads or any of the roadside campgrounds overnight. Plan on arriving at the trailhead, packing up, and departing the same day. Call the backcountry office for information on campgrounds that allow stock outside of the park.

- Manure from around the trailhead, parking area, and hitch rails must be removed or scattered elsewhere before leaving on your trip.
- Keep stock off roadways, except at designated trail crossings.

- When approaching other parties on the trail, exercise caution and have your animals under control. Give the right-of-way when possible. If backpackers seem unsure of what to do, politely offer solutions for safe passage.
- Food or equipment caches are prohibited.
- Travel single file on the established tread; cutting across switchbacks is prohibited.
- All non-ridden stock must be led. Stock in excess of those needed for the trip are prohibited.

Managing stock in camp:

Each backcountry campsite has a limit on the number of people and stock allowed in the site at one time. Consult the campsite list to find a site that will accommodate your stock and party size.

- Manure must be completely removed from the core camp which is that area within a 100 foot radius of the fire ring. In other stock retention areas, manure must be scattered. Properly scattered manure breaks down more rapidly, helps the vegetation, attracts fewer flies and reduces parasites.
- Campsites and their surroundings must be returned to a natural condition before you leave. Remove picket pins and drag logs from meadows.
- Stock must be kept out of the core camp, except for short periods during packing and unpacking.
- Trees and other vegetation are valued and protected resources. Tying stock so as to damage trees or the vegetation around them is prohibited. If stock must be tied for a brief interval, use only mature trees.
- If you picket stock, use only dead and down wood for picket pins and drag logs. We recommend that you carry picket pins and hobbles as part of your equipment. Locate picket sites well away from camp and at least 100 feet from the nearest water or trail. Rotate picket sites frequently to avoid overgrazing. Repair any trampled areas with a rake or shovel.
- Highlines should be used only for short-term retention, not for holding stock overnight. If you use one, be sure to pad the anchor trees and situate it well away from the core camp

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in an area where there will be minimal impact. Keep in mind that whatever retention method you use, it must be moved often enough so there is no damage to the resource. Even if you use an electric fence, you need to monitor and move it before resource damage occurs. Use care in watering stock to prevent stream bank damage. Avoid soft or marshy areas.

Bears:

Proper food and garbage storage is essential to minimize the possibility of encounters with bears. Please read the section on food storage on page two. Remember that all horse feed, insect repellants, and medications must also be hung. Feeding on the ground may attract bears. We recommend using nose bags or a ground cloth for supplemental feeding.

Notify a park ranger immediately if one of your animals dies in the park. Dead stock can attractant bears and must be moved away from any camp, trail or stream.

Remember:

- Designated pack animals are limited to horses, burros, mules, ponies and llamas.
- Some trails are not suited for stock and are therefore closed to stock. For specific information, call the backcountry office.
- Stock parties may travel off-trail except where off-trail travel is prohibited. Pack strings are not allowed off-trail unless no other access is available to a designated camp area.
- Obstructing, impeding, or disturbing, horses and pack stock is prohibited.
- Campsites and trails may be closed to stock in the spring and early summer due to wet conditions. Due to range readiness, overnight trips with stock are not allowed before July 1. Contact the nearest ranger station or the Central Backcountry Office for current trail conditions or restrictions.

BACKCOUNTRY USE REGULATIONS

The National Park Service is required by law “to preserve” park resources and the values and purposes for which the park was established, as well as “to provide for the enjoyment” of those resources and values by such means as will leave them “unimpaired for future generations.”

You can help us by obeying the following regulations:

- **Camping outside designated sites, at sites for which you are not permitted, or within 100 feet of a water source is prohibited. Digging a trench or leveling the ground is prohibited.**
- **Open fires are permitted only in established fire-rings at designated backcountry sites which allow wood fires. Only dead and down wood may be used as firewood.**
- **Food, garbage, cooking gear, and other odorous items must be suspended at least 10 ft. above the ground at night and when unattended.**
- **Carry out your trash; if you pack it in, pack it out.**
- **Bury human waste at least 100 feet from a water source, campsite, or trail. Putting items other than human waste and toilet paper in pit toilets is prohibited.**
- **Bathing, soaking or swimming in water entirely of thermal origin is prohibited.**
- **Polluting or contaminating any water source (with any soap, waste, food, etc.) is prohibited.**
- **Pets, weapons, and nets or traps are prohibited in the backcountry.**
- **Tossing, throwing, or rolling rocks or other items inside caverns, into valleys, canyons, or caves, down hillsides or mountain sides, or into thermal features is prohibited.**
- **Bicycles, wheeled vehicles (except wheelchairs), and operating motorized equipment in the backcountry are prohibited.**
- **Feeding or intentionally disturbing wildlife is prohibited.**
- **Collecting or disturbing natural features, plants, rocks, antlers, cultural, or archaeological resources is prohibited.**
- **Only certified weed-free feed and grain may be taken into the backcountry. Hay is prohibited in the backcountry.**
- **Picketed animals shall not be kept within 100 feet of trails, campsites, or water sources.**
- **Stock manure shall be scattered in meadows and removed from within or near campsites.**
- **Tying stock to any living or dead feature causing injury or damage to the feature, vegetation, or soil is prohibited.**
- **Pack strings are not permitted to travel off-trail unless no other access is available to a designated camp area.**
- **Impeding or disturbing horses or pack animals is prohibited.**

Some information on where to go when river crossings, snowpack, and bear management areas must be considered.

When planning your backcountry trip, remember that most of the trails in Yellowstone are over 7,000 feet above sea level. Most areas have some snow until late May or early June, and some areas (especially mountain passes) are snow-covered until mid or late July. In addition, many routes require fording rivers and creeks. In springtime and early summer, some of the creeks and streams in the park can be 25 ft. wide, extremely cold, and swiftly running 3 to 6 ft. deep. It’s hard to tell by the map whether or not a drainage, stream or river will be a raging torrent or merely a swollen creek.

Below is a breakdown of when many areas in the park are typically free of snow or standing water and can be reached safely. This information is based on historical averages and can vary from year to year. To be sure that a route can be accessed at the time you plan to take your trip, call the Central Backcountry Office or talk to a ranger who is familiar with the area you plan to visit. Keep in mind when reading through the time progression that the listing is cumulative. In other words, all the areas named in May and June are included in the group given for July.

EARLY MAY: All the 1A, 1Y, 1R and the lower 2H sites.

MID to LATE MAY: 3C2, 3C3, 3L1, the 2S sites.

EARLY JUNE: 1B1, 1G sites, 2C1, 2C2, 2C3, OG1, OD sites, OA1, OA2, OA3.

MID to LATE JUNE: WF1, the WB and WC sites, the 1C sites & 1F sites, 3P1 & 3P2, 4F1, the 4C, 4D, 4E, 4G, and 4R sites, 8G1, Shoshone Lake sites: 8Q3, 8Q4, 8R1, 8R3, 8R4, 8R5, 8S1, 8S2, some of Yellowstone Lake except 7M4 shore sites and those closed for bear management, the 5E sites, and most Old Faithful area sites except OE1.

EARLY JULY: 3C4, the 3L, lower 3M, 3F, 3T & 3U sites, 8M1, 8M2, 8Q1, 8R2, 8S4, 8S5, 8S7, 8T1, Heart Lake: 8H sites (except 8H3) and 8J sites, 8A sites, 9U sites (Union Falls in Bechler area), WA1.

MID to LATE JULY: The WD, WE, Fawn and Bighorn passes, 2Y1, the trail connecting the 2S & 3P sites (Bliss Pass), 4M2, 4P1, Specimen Ridge trail, all Yellowstone Lake sites, 6B1, 6B4,the 6C & lower 6D sites, the 6M, & 6Y sites, some 8B and 8C-sites depending on the Snake River ford at 8K7, and the 9A, and 9B1-9B6 sites in the Bechler area.

AUGUST: the 4B & 4W (Wapiti Lake) sites, the 6T sites, 6B2, 6A4 by foot, 7G1, 7G2, the upper 6D sites & Eagle Pass, 9B7-9B9, 9D sites (Bechler River Canyon), 8Q6, 8Q7, 8T3, 8T5, 8P1, 8P2, OE1.

As you can see, almost all of the backcountry is available in August and only limited areas are accessible in May and early June. In general, you will encounter fewer closures, dryer trails, lower stream crossings, and fewer mosquitos if you travel later rather than earlier in the season.

For your safety and pleasure, please plan your itinerary to avoid high elevations and major river crossings early in the season. In addition, certain areas may be closed during the early season if conditions are considered unsafe. Below is a list of some (but, not all) of the hazards and when they are typically open and safe for travel. We recommend you use a topographic map to find the locations of some of these passes and streams. If you have questions, our staff in the backcountry office will be happy to help you.

Mountain Passes

Grants Pass, between old Faithful and the west end of Shoshone Lake: late June/early July

Sky Rim trail along the northwest boundary and Fawn Pass between campsite 1F2 and trailhead WK5 : early-mid July

Electric Pass, trail between High & Crescent Lakes, Bighorn Pass, & Bliss Pass between Pebble and Slough Creeks: mid-July

Eastern Boundary Passes near upper Miller Creek: late July/early August

Eagle Peak Pass, late June

Stream Crossings

Heart River, east and south of Heart Lake: early July

Cache Creek/Lamar River, Snake River (except by the South Entrance): early-mid July

Thorofare Creek & Yellowstone River by the South Boundary: mid-late July

Snake River at South Entrance: mid-late July

Bechler River & Bechler area fords: mid-late July

Yellowstone River (Trail Creek trail): early August

Pebble Creek: mid to late June

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